

## CLAIMS

1. A method for making pallets from plant fibers comprising the steps of:  
preparing unwoven fabric of randomly tangled plant fibers;  
5       impregnating the unwoven fabric with resin to provide a sheet of base material;  
      sandwiching and pressurizing the sheet of base material between upper and lower metal  
      molds having a plurality of hot-air vents made throughout their confronting areas; and  
      heating the sheet of base material thus sandwiched by hot air blowing from one to the  
10       other metal mold via the hot-air vents to shape the sheet of base material into a pallet with  
      recesses formed on its surface in consequence of the hot-air vents.
2. A method for making pallets according to claim 1, wherein the randomly tangled plant  
      fibers are prepared by separating the plant fibers from crushed shells of hard-shelled nut-like  
      fruits such as coconut shells and oily coconut shells, or from certain plants such as jute.
3. An apparatus for making pallets comprising: upper and lower metal molds confronting each  
15       other; a plurality of hot-air vents made throughout confronting areas of both the upper and  
      lower metal molds; and a hot-air generating means having a hot-air outlet and a hot-air inlet  
      to which the hot-air vents of the upper and lower metal molds are connected respectively  
      and vice versa, thereby permitting hot air to circulate and pass through between the upper  
      and lower metal molds via the hot-air vents to provide a pallet with recesses formed on its  
20       surface in consequence of the hot-air vents.
4. An apparatus for making pallets according to claim 3, wherein additional hot-air vents are  
      provided in circumference of said metal molds.